

Our public airwaves have been in danger for some time, but during this 2004 election season the giant media companies have shown us just how serious this danger is! The most recent incident involving Pappas Telecasting Companies' donation of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Pappas uses public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard.

Thank you.